



PROCEEDINGS OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL WORKSHOP ON SEA TURTLE BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION

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Compilers:

Michael Salmon
Jeanette Wyneken

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Barbara H. Franklin, Secretary

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
John A. Knauss, Administrator

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
William W. Fox, Jr., Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

TRACKING OF SEVEN SEA TURTLES BY SATELLITE TELEMETRY

Maurice Renaud

Gregg Glitschlag

NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, 4700 Avenue U, Galveston, TX 77551-5997 USA

During the past 18 months, movements of seven sea turtles have been monitored by satellite telemetry for various time periods in order to 1) help explain the movement and dive patterns of sea turtles, 2) develop a biological model to make these patterns more predictable and 3) explain the interactions between sea turtles and offshore oil and gas structures.

The turtles include 4 loggerheads in the Gulf of Mexico and 3 Kemp's ridleys in Atlantic U.S. coastal waters. Topics of discussion include home range, submergence time by day, night and species, and movement of a Kemp's ridley in relation to water temperature. All data are preliminary. Data from additional turtles must be collected to provide sufficient sample size for a modeling effort.